

April 27, 2005

TO: School District Personnel Directors

FROM: Larry Davis, Executive Director
State Board of Education

RE: Assignment of Persons Providing Instruction of Braille to Students
March 31, 2005 Updated List

In May 1996, the State Board of Education adopted WAC 180-82-130, **Assignment of Persons Providing Instruction of Braille to Students**, to implement Section 501(2)(j) of Chapter 18, Laws of 1995 (State Operating Budget) and RCW 28A.410.032. This mandate required the SBE to establish teacher competencies in the instruction of Braille to legally blind and visually impaired students. A notice was sent to all school district superintendents dated December 1996.

Since September 1, 1997, a certificated person assigned to provide instruction of Braille to students in your district must have demonstrated competency with the Grade Two Standard Literary Braille Code by successful completion of one of the tests specified in WAC 180-82-130 (1). In addition, subsection (2) requires the same competency of classified employees who may produce Braille material or provide instruction in the Braille code to students.

Please review the most current list of individuals who have taken the Braille Literary Usage Examination. This quarterly list, from the Instructional Resource Center for the Visually Impaired, indicates the expiration date of that examination. The list is posted on the website of the State Board of Education at www.sbe.wa.gov.

Individuals who seek to remain eligible to work with visually impaired students are responsible for documenting completion of continuing education. Individuals are strongly encouraged to provide a copy of their documentation to their employing school district. **Your attention to notifying individuals in your district of expiration of their competency credential would be appreciated.**

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Please notify Colleen Lines at the Instructional Resource Center for the Visually Impaired if you have any updates to the list. Her phone number is 1-800-562-4176 x 183 or 360-696-6321 x 5 or email irc@wssb.wa.gov or colleen.lines@wssb.wa.gov.

If you have any questions, please call Pat Eirish, Manager, Research and Assistance Program at 360-725-6030 or email: peirish@ospi.wednet.edu.

Attachment: Current list (**dated March 31, 2005**) of applicants who have taken the Braille Literacy Usage Examination

c State Board of Education Members
 ESD Personnel Coordinators

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